

# The Maryland Vehicle Law 2001 Edition

## **Title 21 -Rules of the Road**

### **21-501. Pedestrians subject to traffic regulations.**

At an intersection, a pedestrian is subject to all traffic control signals, as provided in 21-202 and 21-203 of this title. However, at any other place, a pedestrian has the rights and is subject to the restrictions stated in this title.

### **21-602. Pedestrians' right of way in crosswalks.**

#### *(a) In general. -*

(1) This subsection does not apply where:

- (i) A pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing is provided, as described in 21-503 (b) of this subtitle; or
- (ii) A traffic control signal is in operation.

(2) The driver of the vehicle shall come to a stop when the pedestrian crossing the roadway in a crosswalk is:

- (i) On the half of the roadway on which the vehicle is traveling: or
- (ii) Approaching so closely from the other half of the roadway as to be in danger.

#### *(b) Duty of pedestrian*

A pedestrian may not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield.

#### *(c) Passing of vehicle stopped for pedestrian prohibited.*

If, at a marked crosswalk or at an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, a vehicle is stopped to let a pedestrian cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear may not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle.

## **Selected Maryland Pedestrian Laws**

The following list represents the most commonly enforced pedestrian-motorist laws, but is not a exhaustive list of pedestrian-related statutes.

### **Definitions:**

<b><u>Section TR</u></b>	<b><u>Charge/Text of code/Fine</u></b>
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§11~145	<b>Pedestrian defined.</b>
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	"Pedestrian" means an individual afoot." In the context of the motor vehicle laws, a pedestrian is a person on foot, as distinguished from one in or on a vehicle, on or near a public highway or other place where the motor vehicle laws apply.
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Braswell v. Burri 13 MD App. 513.284 A.2d. 41 (1971). In other words, pedestrians include roller bladers. and skateboarders, but do not include a person on a bicycle. **Fine: N/A**

§21-101

**Crosswalk defined.**

(f) "Crosswalk" means that part of a roadway that is:

(1) Within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of sidewalks at any place where 2 or more roadways of any type meet or join, measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway; or

(2) Distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings.

**Pedestrian Statutes:**

§21-203(c)

**Pedestrian failure to obey signal ("don't walk", "upraised hand").**

"A pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of a 'don't walk' or 'upraised hand' signal." **Fine: \$30**

§21-502 (b)

**Pedestrian unsafely crossing in path of vehicle.**

"A pedestrian may not suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield." **Fine: \$30**

§21-503 (a)

**Pedestrian failure when not in crosswalk to yield the right-of-way to approaching vehicle.**

"If a pedestrian crosses a roadway at any point other than in a marked crosswalk, or in an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, the pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle approaching on the roadway." **Fine: \$30**

§21-503 (b)

**Pedestrian failure to yield the right-of-way to vehicle when unsafely crossing roadway.**

"If a pedestrian crosses a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing is provided, the pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle approaching on the roadway." **Fine: \$30**

§21~503 (c)

**Pedestrian crossing roadway between adjacent intersections having traffic control signal.**

"Between adjacent intersections at which a traffic control signal is in operation, a pedestrian may cross a roadway only in a marked crosswalk." **Fine: \$30**

§21-503 (d)

**Pedestrian diagonally crossing roadway intersection without traffic device authorization.**

"A pedestrian may not cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by a traffic control device for crossing movements. If authorized to cross diagonally, a pedestrian may cross only in accordance with the traffic control device." **Fine: \$30**

**Motorist Statutes:**

**§21-502 (a2) Driver failure to stop for pedestrian in crosswalk.**

"The driver of a vehicle shall come to a stop when a pedestrian crossing the roadway in a crosswalk is; (i) On the half of the roadway on which the vehicle is traveling; or (ii) Approaching so closely from the other half of the roadway as to be in danger."

**Fine: Must Appear. Up to \$500 and/or up to 2 months jail.**

**§21-502 (c) Driver passing vehicle stopped for pedestrian at crosswalk.**

"If, at a marked crosswalk or at an unmarked intersection, a vehicle is stopped to let a pedestrian cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear may not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle."

**Fine: Must Appear. Up to \$500 and/or up to 2 months jail.**

**§21-202 (c) Yielding right-of-way to pedestrians within intersections or crosswalks.**

"Vehicular traffic..., including any vehicle turning right or left shall yield the right-of-way to any other vehicle and pedestrian lawfully within the crosswalk, when the signal is shown." **Fine: \$70, 1 pt.**

**§21-202 (e) Driver failure to yield intersection right-of-way after green arrow signal.**

"Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal... shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to any other traffic lawfully using the intersection." **Fine: \$70, 1 pt.**

**§21-202 (h) Driver failure to stop at clearly marked, stop line.**

"Vehicular Traffic facing a steady red signal alone shall stop at the near side of the intersection at a clearly marked stop line; if there is no clearly marked stop line, before entering any crosswalk" **Fine: \$120, 2 pts.**

**§21-202 (k) Driver failure to yield intersection right-of-way to pedestrian after turn on red signal.**

"In each instance, vehicular traffic...shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk..." **Fine: \$70, 1 pt.**

**§21.511 (a) Driver failure to yield to disabled pedestrian.**

"The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to: (1) A blind or partially blind. pedestrian using a guide dog or carrying a cane; (2) A deaf or hearing impaired pedestrian accompanied by a guide dog; or (3) A mobility impaired individual using...mobility assisted devices," **Fine: \$50, 1 pt.**

**§21-801 (h) Special dangers as to pedestrians or other traffic.**

"Consistent with the requirements of this section, the driver of a vehicle shall drive at an appropriate, reduced speed, when any special danger exists as to pedestrians or other traffic or because of weather or highway conditions."

**Fine: \$65, 1 pt.**